

Conservation Commission Minutes
Tuesday, November 18, 2014
Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Rd.
5:30pm

Present: Members: Chair Ned Phillips, Jr., Vice Chair Fred Leeder, David Roosa, Donald Littlefield, and Les Slate. Absent: John Hopf and Marea Mott. Also present was Administrative Assistant Teresa Chmiel for the recording of the minutes.

Call to Order

Chair Mr. Phillips, Jr., called the regular meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 5:30pm.

Dune Restoration

Discuss maintenance of Rosa Regosa plantings along Corn Neck Road.

Discuss the cut out in the dunes across from the Beachead Restaurant.

Nancy Dodge, Town Manager submitted a memo dated November 18, 2014, to the Conservation Commission addressing the Corn Neck Road dune cut and plantings. (See attached) Ms. Dodge noted in her correspondence “that beach grass was planted along the dune in the past week.” Mr. Phillips, Jr. looked over the Rosa Regosa plantings along the beach berm (same stretch as the plantings of the beach grass) he saw evidence of growth. Mr. Littlefield discussed the sparseness and the need for additional Rosa Regosa plantings. Mr. Phillips, Jr. will ask Ms. Dodge to continue the Rosa Regosa plantings.

Ms. Dodge addressed the cut out of the dune, which was traditionally a seaweed access point; however the Notice of Violation was issued when a stone wall was constructed. Mr. Littlefield and Mr. Slate were in agreement that the stone architectural was well done and they like the stone walls. Mr. Leeder and Mr. Phillips were in favor of the removal of the stone walls. Mr. Leeder stated in his opinion, the stone walls will do more harm than good especially during a storm, the force of the water will push into the dunes and push out the walls. For the meantime, the Commission was in consensus to send an advisory to the Town Council to proceed with the filing of the application to CRMC for the stone opening the Town has created on Corn Neck Road across from The Beachead Restaurant. It was agreed upon that the Commissioners will revisit the situation at their December meeting.

Mr. Phillips, Jr. made a motion, seconded by Mr. Slate to send an Advisory to the Town Council to proceed with the filing of the application to CRMC for the stone opening the Town has created on Corn Neck Road across from The Beachead Restaurant.

5 Ayes (Phillips, Jr., Leeder, Littlefield, Slate, and Roosa)
2 Absent (Hopf and Mott)

0 Nays

Discuss work date for dune restoration.

Mr. Phillips, Jr. discussed installing snow fencing on a day that the temperature is warmer; he stated six (6) rolls of fencing are left along with poles.

Follow-up on the meeting with the Town Council re: New Shoreham Tree Ordinance.

Mr. Phillips, Jr. noted he attended the Town Council meeting held on November 3, 2014, regarding the recommendation of the Block Island Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance. Discussion ensued to urge the Council to expedite the Tree Ordinance; the Commission hopes the current Council will approve the ordinance.

Mr. Littlefield made a motion, seconded by Mr. Slate to send an Advisory to the Town Council to expedite the New Shoreham Tree Ordinance.

5 Ayes (Phillips, Jr., Leeder, Littlefield, Slate, and Roosa) 0 Nays
2 Absent (Hopf and Mott)

Approval of Minutes of October 14, 2014.

Mr. Littlefield made a motion, seconded by Mr. Slate, to approve the minutes of October 14, 2014 as presented.

5 Ayes (Phillips, Jr., Leeder, Littlefield, Slate, and Roosa) 0 Nays
2 Absent (Hopf and Mott)

Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42pm in a motion by Mr. Slate, and seconded by Mr. Leeder.

5 Ayes (Phillips, Jr., Leeder, Littlefield, Slate, and Roosa) 0 Nays
2 Absent (Hopf and Mott)

Respectfully submitted

Teressa L. Chmiel

Administrative Assistant Building and Land Use

Minutes approved: January 13, 2015